GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1874
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Awareness against Fast Food Consumption
Patil Shri A.T. (Nana)

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some cancer cases have been detected in children in schools due to consumption of fast food;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has decided to launch any campaign to create awareness amongst school children regarding the importance of balanced food;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent school children from taking fast food?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a) to (b) No such case has come to the knowledge of this Ministry.
(c) to (e) Education being a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, majority of the schools are under the purview of the State governments. It is therefore for the respective State/Union Territory Governments to prevent sale of junk food in schools. However, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued directions in November, 2008 to its affiliated schools to ensure that junk food, carbonated and aerated beverages are replaced with healthy snacks, juices and dairy products. Further, the CBSE has issued instructions to involve doctors, nutritional experts and dieticians in designing the recipes for the menu and monitoring the quality of the food items. Also, the CBSE vide its circular dated 06.01.2016 advised all affiliated schools to ensure that no HFSS (High in Fat, Salt and Sugar) food is available in the school canteens. The schools have been directed by the CBSE to organize awareness generating events like Celebration of Nutrition Week (1-7 September) and other such occasions throughout the year regarding nutritious food and avoidance of HFSS foods.